[6th February 1959

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR : Are the Government aware of the fact that there are still 1942 model old buses which are very rickety, with the result there are lots of breakdown and passengers are put to unnecessary inconvenience? So, will the Government take steps to put more buses?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : As far as the standard of vehicles in our State is concerned, I am proud to say that even in the private sector the operators have come forward to put in the best vehicles available. There might be one or two cases where old vehicles are put in. But even new operators themselves feel that plying old rickety buses is not paying them and everyone is going in for new model buses.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I may inform the hon. the Leader of the Opposition that if he cares to visit other States, he will find that even 1920 model vehicles are used there.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR : It does not mean that we should have rickety buses.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It does not mean that but the condition of the vehicles also should be taken into consideration, particularly, when we are not manufacturing our own vehicles. It is uneconomical to take them off the road simply because they are old models. I do not think we can afford the luxury of having only new model buses. That can happen when we have our own manufacturing programme and I hope the hon. the Leader of the Opposition will take the economy of the country also into his consideration.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR : I can speak from authority that it is very economical to run latest model buses instead of rickety buses.

Medical College

* 77 *Q.*—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to start another Medical College during the course of the Second Five-Year Plan period ; and

(*b*) if so, where and when?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Rayon Pulp plant

* 78 *Q.*—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the possibilites of starting a rayon plup plant in the Nilgiris district?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Nilgiris District has not been considered suitable for the location of a rayon pulp plant as the resources of wattle and eucalyptus wood available there at present are inadequate for a unit of economic size.